

VIS

VI'RU'LENT. *adj.* [*virulentus*, Fr. *virulentus*, Lat.]

1. Poisonous; venomous.
2. Poisoned in the mind; bitter; malignant.

VI'RU'LENTLY. *adv.* [*from virulent.*] Malignantly; with bitterness.

VI'SAGE. *n. f.* [*visage*, Fr. *visaggio*, Italian.] Face; countenance; look. It is now rarely used but with some ideas of dislike or horror.

Phoebe doth behold
Her silver *visage* in the watry glass,
Decking with liquid pearl the bladed grass. *Shakefp.*
When the shall hear this of thee, with her nails
She'll flea thy woful *visage*. *Shakefp. K. Lear.*

Whereto serves mercy,
But to confront the *visage* of offence. *Shakefp. Hamlet.*

With hostile frown,
And *visage* all inflam'd, first thus began. *Milton.*

By the rout, that made the hideous roar,
His goary *visage* down the stream was sent;
Down the swift Hebrus to the Lesbian shore. *Milton.*

Love and beauty still that *visage* grace;
Death cannot fright 'em from their wonted place. *Waller.*

To VI'SCERATE. *v. a.* [*viscera*, Latin.] To embowel; to ex-
entrate.

VI'SCID. *adj.* [*viscidus*, Latin.] Glutinous; tenacious.

VI'SCIDITY. *n. f.* [*from viscid.*]

1. Glutinousness; tenacity.

This motion in some human creatures may be weak, in
respect to the *viscidit* of what is taken, so as not to be able
to propel it. *Arbutnot.*

2. Glutinous concretion.

Catharticks of mercurials precipitate the *viscidities* by their
Astringency. *Floyer.*

VI'SCOSITY. *n. f.* [*viscosus*, Fr. *from viscosus.*]

1. Glutinousness; tenacity.

The air being mixed with the animal fluids, determines
their condition as to rarity, density, *viscosity*, tenuity. *Arbut.*

2. A glutinous substance.

A tenuous emanation, or continued effluvia, after some
distance, retracteth unto itself, as is observable in drops of
syrrups, and seminal *viscosities*. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*

VI'SCOUNT. *n. f.* [*vicecomes*, Lat.]

Viscount signifies as much as sheriff; between which two
words there is no other difference, but that the one comes
from our conquerors the Normans, and the other from our
ancestors the Saxons. *Viscount* also signifies a degree of no-
bility next to an earl, which is an old name of office, but a
new one of dignity, never heard of amongst us, till Henry
VI. his days. *Covel.*

VI'SCOUNTER. *n. f.* [*from viscount.*] *Viscount* and *viscountess*
are pronounced *viscount* and *viscountess*. The lady of a vis-
count; a peeress of the fourth order.

VI'SCOUS. *adj.* [*visqueus*, Fr. *viscosus*, Lat.] Glutinous; sticky;
tenacious.

The cause of the scouring virtue of nitre is, that it hath
a subtle spirit, which severeth and divideth any thing that is
foul and *viscous*. *Bacon.*

Holly is of so *viscous* a juice as they make bird-line of
the bark. *Bacon.*

VI'SIBILITY. *n. f.* [*visibilitas*, Fr. *from visibilis.*]

1. The state or quality of being perceptible by the eye.

The colours of outward objects brought into a darkened
room, do much depend for their *visibility*, upon the dimness
of the light they are beheld by. *Boyle.*

2. State of being apparent, or openly discoverable; conspicu-
ousness.

They produced this as an instance against the perpetual
visibility of the church, and he brings it to prove that it ceased
to be a true church. *Stillingfleet.*

In these, the *visibility* and example of our virtues will
chiefly consist. *Rogers's Sermons.*

VI'SIBLE. *n. f.* [*visibilis*, Fr. *visibilis*, Lat.]

1. Perceptible by the eye.

Visibles work upon a looking-glass, which is like the pupil
of the eye; and audibles upon the places of echo, which re-
semble the cavern of the ear. *Bacon.*

On this mount he appeared; under this tree
Stood *visible*;
Here with him at this fountain talk'd. *Milton.*

Each thought was *visible*, that roll'd within,
As through a crystal case the fig'd hours are seen. *Dryden.*

A long series of ancestors shews the native lustre with
great advantage; but if he degenerate from his line, the least
spot is *visible* on crinne. *Dryden.*

2. Discovered to the eye.

If that the heavens do not their *visible* spirits
Send quickly down to tame the vile offences,
Humanity must perforce prey on itself,
Like monsters of the deep. *Shakefp. K. Lear.*

3. Apparent; open; conspicuous.

The factions at court were greater, or more *visible* than
before. *Clarendon.*

VIS

VI'SIBLENESS. *n. f.* [*from visibilis.*] State or quality of being
visible.

VI'SIBLY. *adv.* [*from visibilis.*] In a manner perceptible by the
eye.

The day being *visibly* governed by the sun, is a little
longer than the revolution of the equator; so much as is
occasioned by the advance of the sun in his annual contrary
motion along the ecliptick.

By the head we make known more *visibly* our supplications,
our threatnings; enough to see the face, and to understand
the mind at half a word. *Holder.*

VISION. *n. f.* [*visio*, Fr. *visio*, Latin.]

1. Sight; the faculty of seeing.

Anatomists, when they have taken off from the bottom of
the eye that outward and most thick coat called the dura
mater, can then see through the thinner coats, the pictures
of objects lively painted thereon. And these pictures, pro-
pagated by motion along the fibres of the optic nerves into
the brain, are the cause of *vision*. *Newton's Opticks.*

These theorems being admitted into optics, there would be
scope enough of handling that science voluminously, after
a new manner; not only by teaching those things which tend
to the perfection of *vision*, but also by determining mathe-
matically all kinds of phenomena of colours which could be
produced by refractions. *Newton's Opticks.*

2. The act of seeing.

Vision in the next life is the perfecting of faith in this;
or faith here is turned into *vision* there, as hope into en-
joying. *Hammond's Pract. Catechism.*

3. A supernatural appearance; a spectre; a phantom.

The day seems long, but night is odious;
No sleep, but dreams; no dreams, but *visions* strange. *Siden.*

Last night the very gods shew'd me a *vision*. *Shakefp.*

God's mother designed to appear to me;
And, in a *vision*, full of majesty,
Will'd me to leave my base vocation. *Shakefp. Hen. VI.*

To call by *vision*, from his father's house,
Into a land which he will show him. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

A dream; something shewn in a dream. A dream happens
to a sleeping, a *vision* may happen to a waking man. A
dream is supposed natural, a *vision* miraculous; but they are
confounded.

His dream returns; his friend appears again;
The murderers come; now help, or I am slain!
'Twas but a *vision* still, and *visions* are but vain. *Dryden.*

The idea of any thing in our mind, no more proves the
existence of that thing, than the *visions* of a dream make a
true history. *Locke.*

VI'SIONARY. *adj.* [*visionnaire*, Fr. *from visio.*]

1. Affected by phantoms; disposed to receive impressions on
the imagination.

No more these scenes my meditation aid,
Or lull to rest the *visionary* maid. *Pope's Epistle to Ashurst.*

The hounds at nearer distance hoarly bray'd;
The hunter close pursu'd the *visionary* maid. *Dryden.*

If you have any skill in dreams, let me know whether I
have the same place in the real heart, that I had in the *vi-
sionary* one. *Addison.*

Our victories only led us to further *visionary* prospects;
advantage was taken of the sanguine temper which success
had wrought the nation up to. *Swift.*

VI'SIONARY. *n. f.* [*visionnaire*, Fr.] One whose imagination is
VI'SIONIST. *s.* disturbed.

The *visionary* gave him perpetual uneasiness. *Fen. Quin.*

To VI'SIT. *v. a.* [*visiter*, Fr. *visite*, Lat.]

1. To go to see.

You must go *visit* the lady that lies in. — I *visit* her with
my prayers; but I cannot go thither. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*

Virgins *visited* by angel pow'rs. *Pope.*

2. [In scriptural language.] To send good or evil judi-
cially.

When God *visits*, what shall I answer him? *Job xxxi. 14.*

Thou shalt be *visited* of the Lord with thunder. *Isa. xxix. 6.*

When I *visit*, I will *visit* their sin upon them. *Isa. xxxii. 34.*

God *visit* thee in good things. *Judith xiii. 20.*

That venerable body is in little concern after what manner
their mortal enemies intend to treat them, whenever God
shall *visit* us with so fatal an event. *Swift.*

3. To salute with a present.

Samson *visited* his wife with a kid. *Judges xv. 1.*

4. To come to a survey, with judicial authority.

The bishop ought to *visit* his diocese every year in
person. *Addison.*

To VI'SIT. *v. n.* To keep up the intercourse of ceremonial
salutations at the houses of each other.

VI'SIT. *n. f.* [*visite*, Fr. *from the verb.*] The act of going to
see another.

In a designed or accidental *visit*, let some one take a book,
which may be agreeable, and read in it. *Watts.*

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VI'SITABLE. *adj.* [*from visit.*] Liable to be visited.

All hospitals built since the reformation, are *visit*able by the
king or lord chancellor. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

VI'SITANT. *n. f.* [*from visit.*] One who goes to see another.

He alone
To find where Adam shelter'd, took his way,
Not unperceiv'd of Adam, who to Eve,
While the great *visitant* approach'd, thus spake. *Milton.*

One visit begins an acquaintance; and when the *visitant*
comes again, he is no more a stranger. *Soub.*

Edward the first, who had been a *visitant* in Spain, upon
action in the holy land, fixed both our pounds by the measures
of the East. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

Grief'd that a *visitant* so long should wait
Unmark'd, unhonour'd, at a monarch's gate,
Instant he flew. *Pope's Odyssey. b. i. l. 160.*

VI'SITATION. *n. f.* [*visita*, Latin.]

1. The act of visiting.

He comes not
Like to his father's greatness; his approach,
So out of circumstance and sudden, tells us,
'Tis not a *visitation* fram'd, but forc'd
By need and accident. *Shakefp. Winter Tale.*

What would you with the princeps?
— Nothing but peace and gentle *visitation*. *Shakespeare.*

2. Object of visits.

O flow'rs,
My early *visitation*, and my last. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

3. [*Visitation*, Fr.] Judicial visit or perambulation.

The bishop ought to visit his diocese every year in person,
unless he omits the same because he would not burden his
churches; and then ought to send his arch-deacon, which
was the original of the arch-deacon's *visitation*. *Ayliffe.*

4. Judicial visit sent by God; state of suffering judicial evil.

That which thou dost not understand when thou readest,
thou shalt understand in the day of thy *visitation*. For many
secrets of religion are not perceived till they be felt, and are
not felt but in the day of a great calamity. *Taylor.*

5. Communication of divine love.

The most comfortable *visitation* God hath sent men from
above, have taken especially the times of prayer as their most
natural opportunities. *Hooker.*

VI'SITATORIAL. *adj.* [*from visitor.*] Belonging to a judicial
visitor.

Some will have it, that an archdeacon does of common
right execute this *visitatorial* power in his archdeaconry; but
others say that an archdeacon has a *visitatorial* power only of
common right *per modum simplicis jurisdictionis*, as being bishop's
vicar. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

VI'SITER. *n. f.* [*from visit.*]

1. One who comes to see another.

Here's ado to lock up honestly and honour from the access
of gentle *visitors*. *Shakespeare.*

You see this confluence, this great flood of *visitors*. *Shakefp.*

Contumelies of this degree entertain their *visitors* with
strange rambling discourses of their intent of going here and
there. *Harvey.*

I have a large house, yet I should hardly prevail to find one
visitor, if I were not able to hire him with a bottle of
wine. *Swift to Gay.*

2. [*Visiter*, Fr.] An occasional judge; one who regulates
the disorders of any society.

The *visitors* expell'd the orthodox; they, without scruple
or shame, possess'd themselves of their colleges. *Walton.*

To him you must your sickly state refer;
Your charter claims him as your *visitor*. *Garth.*

Whatever abuses have crept into the universities, might be
reformed by strict injunctions to the *visitors* and heads of
houses. *Swift's Project for the Advancement of Religion.*

VI'SOMY. *n. f.* [*corrupted from physiognomy.*] Face; counte-
nance. Not in use.

Twelve gods do sit around in royal state,
And Jove in midst with awful majesty,
To judge the strife between them stirr'd late:
Each of the gods by his like *visomy*
Eath to be known, but Jove above them all,
By his great looks and pow'r imperial. *Spenser.*

VI'SIVE. *adj.* [*visif*, Fr. *visus*, Lat.] Formed in the act of
seeing.

This happens when the axis of the *visive* cones, diffused
from the object, fall not upon the same plane; but that
which is conveyed into one eye is more depressed or